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REPORT NO.

DATE (OF INFO.) 8 Sep 53 and earlier

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This report contains unevaluated intelligence information received through an untested source. The credibility of the information and reliability of the source and his informants cannot be determined.

1. Edmond Barrachin is 50 years of age. He was at one time a lawyer, later a publicist. In 1940 and 1941 he was a leader of Colonel de Rocque's propaganda (PSF). He left the PSF early, however, and went over to the Gaullists. Since 1945, he has been a deputy in Paris. He won his first election as deputy while a candidate of the Party for Republic and Freedom (RPF). In 1951 he was elected from the fifth electoral district of the Seine where he was first on the RPF list.

2. Barrachin is grandson of Francois Petri, former deputy from Corsica. He is supposed to have gotten his "political education" from his grandfather. His Corsican relations have been of great use to him in his association with the French police, among whom the Corsican element has a great influence.

3. Barrachin is the leader of those who have forsaken the RPF. He is regarded as the common party leader of the "Independent Group of the Republican-Socialist Movement." Barrachin is personally devoted to de Gaulle, but he is strongly opposed to what is called Gaullism. He used to hope that de Gaulle would carry out his aims and reforms, within the limits of parliamentary democracy. He is strongly opposed to the General's political stubbornness and continual opposition for its own sake, which has the unexpected effect of bringing the RPF into line with the French Communist Party. He is an advocate of Franco-German cooperation and does not personally believe that German rearmament constitutes a danger for France. He is for the realities of the Atlantic Pact and for the defense of the new Europe, if this is based on a European Army.

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